INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

42nd Session

Conspectus of action taken on the Resolutions and Recommendations of the Indian Historical Records Commission

Resolutions of the 37th Session, New Delhi, 7-9 October, 1966

Resolution V: To facilitate the study of the role of the Indian revolutionaries abroad, the Commission resolves that letters, documents, journals and other original writings relating to them and their associations and movements be procured and preserved at the National Archives and also a list of the revolutionaries abroad and their movements be prepared.

In pursuance of the policy of the Government of India, the National Archives of India has been acquiring from abroad microfilm copies of records of Indian interest including among others the papers concerning the Indian revolutionaries abroad. Of the papers of the Indian revolutionaries, of which microfilm copies have already been obtained by the Department, mention may be made of the Papers of the Ghadr Party Conspiracy trial at San Francisco, U.S.A., Lala Lajpatrai: "Recollections of his life and work for an independent India while living in the United States and Japan", (1914-17); the Indian Independence League Papers; activities of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in Central Europe and Vivendranath Chattopadhyaya when he was in Sweden (1917). In 1971, an officer of the National Archives of India was also deputed to the U.K. to examine the records of Indian interest available in the India Office Library and Records, Public Record Office and British Museum, London. The list prepared by him also includes

papers pertaining to the Indian revolutionaries in U.S.A., Latin America, China, Japan, Philippines, Egypt, Germany and Norway among the record series available with the P.R.O.,London. Papers pertaining to the activities of Lala Hardayal,M.N.Roy, Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh, Gobind Bihari Lal, Syed Hussein, Taraknath Das, Godha Ram, and the papers relating to the Indian Revolutionary Association and Ghadr Party at Stockholm are also available in these series. The Department is now negotiating with the Public Record Office, London for supply of their copies. The National Archives of India has also contacted the Government of Federal Republic of Germany for supply of microfilm copies of records pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose available with the German Foreign Ministry Archives. Since microfilm copies of some of these records were already available with Netaji Research Bureau, Calcutta, copies thereof have been prepared for custody in the National Archives of India.

A consolidated list of the revolutionaries abroad and their movements will be prepared after copies of the records available at P.R.O. are obtained by the Department.

Resolution IX: The Commission resolves that the Government of India and the State Governments be requested to take steps to have suitable descriptive lists prepared as early as possible in respect of the non-British records in their custody.

Further to the information submitted to the Commission at its four previous Sessions, the following reply has been received from Tamil Nadu:

Tamil Nadu: The descriptive lists in respect of the non-British records are available in the Tamil Nadu Archives.